Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS:

Senate passed H.J. Res. 47, Debt-Limit Extension. Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 83, Congressional Budget Resolution.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2255-S2395

Measures Introduced: Thirty bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2426–2455, and S. Res. 403–404. Pages S2312–13

Measures Reported:

S. 598, to reauthorize provisions in the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 relating to Native Hawaiian low-income housing and Federal loan guarantees for Native Hawaiian housing. (S. Rept. No. 109–221).

S. 1057, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to revise and extend that Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 109–222).

Page S2311

Measures Passed:

Debt-Limit Extension: By 52 yeas to 48 nays (Vote No. 54), Senate passed H.J. Res. 47, increasing the statutory limit on the public debt, and the Senate then began consideration of the joint resolution, after taking action on the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S2236-41

Rejected:

By 44 yeas to 55 nays (Vote No. 53), Baucus/Lincoln Amendment No. 3131, to require a study of debt held by foreigners.

Page S2236

Subsequently, the measure was cleared for the President.

Congressional Budget Resolution: By 51 yeas to 49 nays (Vote No. 74), Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 83, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 and 2008 through 2011, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S2225-36, S2241-93

Adopted:

By 99 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. 56), Burr Amendment No. 3114, to provide for the establishment of a reserve fund concerning pandemic influenza preparedness planning.

Pages S2231-32, S2241

Vitter Amendment No. 3078, to establish a reserve fund to prevent catastrophic loss.

Pages S2243, S2250

Gregg (for Baucus) Amendment No. 3041, to provide funding for an Internet Crimes Against Children task force in Montana.

Page \$2250

Gregg (for Snowe) Amendment No. 3134, to prevent an increase in interest rates paid by disaster victims, and to increase funding for the SBA's Microloans, Small Business Development Centers, HUBZones, and other small business development programs, and to offset the cost through a reduction in funds under Function 920.

Page S2250

Gregg (for Lautenberg) Amendment No. 3045, to add \$8 million to Function 300 (Environment and Natural Resources) for Highlands Land Acquisition. Fully offset with Function 920.

Page S2250

Gregg (for Coleman) Amendment No. 3123, to increase funding to fully fund the Clean Coal Power Initiative.

Page S2250

Conrad Modified Amendment No. 3136, to provide a reserve fund for bold energy legislation that is deficit-neutral. Pages \$2230-31, \$2249, \$2250

By 51 yeas to 49 nays (Vote No. 57), Reed Amendment No. 3074, to increase funding for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program by \$3,318,000,000 for fiscal year 2007, increasing the funds available to carry out that program to the fully authorized level of \$5,100,000,000, to be paid for by closing corporate tax loopholes.

Pages S2229-30, S2254

By 73 yeas to 27 nays (Vote No. 58), Specter Amendment No. 3048, to increase the advance appropriations allowance in order to fund health, education and training, and low-income programs.

Pages S2225, S2254-55

Lautenberg Amendment No. 3137, to eliminate the President's proposed tax increase on American airline passengers in fiscal year 2007 and to provide adequate funding for commercial aviation security and to offset these costs by closing corporate tax loopholes.

Pages S2231, S2256

Collins Amendment No. 3066, to ensure that first responder and state and local government grant programs key to our Nation's homeland security are funded at no less than fiscal year 2006 levels and to provide increases for port security, first responder programs, rail/transit security, and National Response Plan Training, offset by discretionary spending reductions.

Pages S2246–48

Gregg (for Obama) Amendment No. 3144, to provide a \$40 million increase in fiscal year 2007 for the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program and to improve job services for hard-to-place veterans.

Pages S2261-63

Gregg (for Ensign) Amendment No. 3085, to provide funding to hire an additional 500 Border Patrol Agents; fully funding the promise Congress made to the American people to hire 2,000 new agents in fiscal year 2007 as authorized by the National Intelligence Reform Act of 2004 and as recommended by the 9/11 Commission.

Pages S2261-63

Gregg (for Levin) Amendment No. 3140, to provide funds to establish additional Northern Border Air Wings, offset through reductions in Function 920.

Pages S2261-63

Gregg (for Landrieu) Amendment No. 3139, to provide funding for maintaining a robust long range bomber force including 94 B-52 aircraft.

Pages S2261-63

Gregg (for Lincoln) Amendment No. 3053, to provide for restoring funding for the portion of the COPS program devoted to countering methamphetamine, offset by a reduction to Function 920 (Allowances).

Pages S2261-63

Gregg (for DeWine/Leahy) Amendment No. 3079, to increase funding for Child Survival and Maternal Health Programs. Pages \$2261-63

Gregg (for DeWine) Amendment No. 3083, to increase funding for the Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education Program under the Public Health Service Act for fiscal year 2007.

Pages S2261-63

Gregg (for DeWine) Amendment No. 3033, to increase funding for NASA aeronautics programs by \$179,000,000 in fiscal year 2007, with an offset.

Pages S2261-63

Gregg (for Leahy) Amendment No. 3154, to fund grants for bulletproof vests for law enforcement agencies at the full authorized level. Pages \$2261-63

Gregg (for Baucus) Amendment No. 3059, to improve America's economic competitiveness.

Pages S2261-63

Gregg (for Salazar) Amendment No. 3155, to fully fund the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program. Adds \$152 million to Function 800 (General Government) for PILT.

Page S2262

Gregg (for Stabenow/Levin) Amendment No. 3156, to protect the American people from terrorist attacks and threats to public health by collecting a fee for inspection exclusively of international trash shipments at the U.S. border generating \$45 million in receipts. The fee will help defray the cost of increasing the number and quality of inspections of these potentially dangerous shipments at the border. The fee for inspection service will be implemented to be fully compliant with the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and other applicable trade agreements.

Pages \$2262-63

Nelson Amendment No. 3001, to provide funds ensuring Survivor Benefit Plan annuities are not reduced by the amount of dependency and indemnity compensation that military families receive, and to provide funds for "paid-up" SBP, offset by closing abusive corporate tax loopholes.

Pages S2265–66

Santorum Amendment No. 3052, to continue providing 33 percent of the Global Fund's revenue and to contribute an additional \$566,000,000 to the Global Fund for fiscal year 2007 to support grant renewals and new proposals to support international HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria programs.

Gregg (for Dodd/DeWine) Amendment No. 3111, to establish a reserve fund for the FIRE and SAFER programs.

Pages \$2267-69

Gregg (for Hutchison) Amendment No. 3110, to provide a reserve fund to ensure that physicians will receive an appropriate reimbursement rate under Medicare instead of a scheduled cut which would threaten the adequate provision of care for seniors and disabled citizens.

Pages \$2269-71

Gregg (for Kohl/Biden) Amendment No. 3057, to restore \$380 million to juvenile justice programs funded by the Department of Justice, offset by a reduction to Function 920 (Allowances).

Pages S2269-71

Gregg (for Feinstein/Mikulski) Amendment No. 3067, to provide \$390,000,000 in fiscal year 2007 for cancer funding in the National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Health Resources and Services Administration paid for by closing corporate tax loopholes.

Pages S2269-71

Gregg (for Clinton/Mikulski) Amendment No. 3147, to restore funding for the Alzheimer's Association 24/7 Contact Center (under Training, Research and Discretionary Programs), Alzheimer's Disease Demonstration Grants, Preventive Health Services, Home-Delivered Nutrition Services, Congregate Nutrition Services, the Nutrition Services Incentive Program, the National Family Caregiver Support Program, and the Long-Term Care Ombudsmen Program in the Administration on Aging, fully offset through closing corporate tax loopholes.

Pages S2269-71

Gregg (for Salazar) Amendment No. 3089, to restore \$100 million to the Land and Water Conservation Fund Stateside Grant Program by closing corporate tax loopholes.

Pages S2269-71, S2273-74

Gregg (for Brownback) Amendment No. 3167, to establish a reserve fund for a Commission for Accountability and Review of Federal Agencies.

Page S2271

Gregg (for Baucus) Amendment No. 3168, to expand funding for the High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Program, offset through reductions in Function 920; and to ensure that HIDTA funding remains in ONDCP.

Page S2271

Gregg (for Graham) Amendment No. 3169, to restore funding for a pilot project in the Port of Charleston that coordinates over 50 State and local law enforcement agencies to prevent and detect acts of terrorism and criminal activity.

Page S2271

By 51 yeas to 49 nays (Vote No. 72), Domenici Amendment No. 3128, to provide funding for implementing the Energy Policy Act of 2005 from ANWR.

Page S2272

Vitter/Landrieu Amendment No. 3165, to create a Gulf Coast Protection, Reconstruction and Recovery Fund to provide assistance to coastal states for coastal conservation, mitigation, and resource protection activities.

Pages S2272–73

Gregg (for Levin) Amendment No. 3031, to provide funding for the Advanced Technology Program to help ensure America's competitive advantage and fully offset with reductions in function 920.

Pages S2273-74

Conrad/Gregg Amendment No. 3170, to provide an additional \$500 million to enhance the ability of the Internal Revenue Service to collect taxes owed but not paid voluntarily.

Pages \$2273-74

Gregg (for Byrd) Amendment No. 3171, to provide \$184 million over five years for the Mine Safety and Health Administration to hire additional mine safety inspectors.

Pages \$2273-74

Gregg (for Lott) Amendment No. 3152, to provide additional new budget authority and outlay authority for fiscal year 2007 for National Defense (050) in the amount of \$3,700,000,000, the amount

requested for defense for fiscal year 2007 in the budget of the President for fiscal year 2006, in order to fund principal unfunded priorities of the military departments and fund an authorized end strength of active duty members of the Army of 512,400, and an authorized end strength of active duty members of the Marine Corps of 179,000, for fiscal year 2007.

Page S2275

Gregg (for Schumer) Amendment No. 3172, to add \$308 million to Function 800 for GSA. Fully offset by Function 920.

Page \$2275

Gregg (for Salazar) Modified Amendment No. 3023, to strengthen homeland security by adding \$10 million to National Defense for an interoperable and survivable mobile wireless communications network enabling clear, reliable communications among Department of Defense and first responders for the military homeland defense command. Page S2291

Rejected:

By 44 yeas to 55 nays (Vote No. 55), Conrad Amendment No. 3133, to increase funding to combat avian flu, increase local preparedness, and create a Manhattan Project-like effort to develop a vaccine to inoculate the U.S. population against a pandemic by \$5 billion in FY 2007 paid for by requiring tax withholding on government payments to contractors like Halliburton.

Pages S2226–27, S2241

By 43 yeas to 53 nays (Vote No. 59), Lieberman/Mikulski Amendment No. 3034, to protect the American people from terrorist attacks by providing \$8 billion in additional funds for homeland security government-wide, by restoring cuts to vital first responder programs in the Departments of Homeland Security and Justice, by providing an additional \$1.2 billion for first responders, \$1.7 billion for the Coast Guard and port security, \$150 million for chemical security, \$1 billion for rail and transit security, \$456 million for FEMA, \$1 billion for health preparedness programs, and \$752 million for aviation security.

Pages S2227-29, S2255-56

By 48 yeas to 49 nays (Vote No. 60), Sarbanes Amendment No. 3103, to restore funding for the civil works programs of the Corps of Engineers, the Federal Water Pollution Control State Revolving Fund, the National Park Service, the Forest Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Federal conservation programs, and other natural resource needs, through an offset achieved by closing corporate tax loopholes.

Pages S2233-34, S2256-57

By 42 yeas to 56 nays (Vote No. 61), Dorgan Amendment No. 3102, to increase funding by \$1 billion for various tribal programs and provide necessary additional funding based on recommendations from Indian country, by closing corporate tax loopholes.

Pages \$2235-36, \$2257

By 43 yeas to 57 nays (Vote No. 62), Cornyn/Graham Amendment No. 3100, to provide for reconciliation instructions to the Committee on Finance to reduce mandatory spending.

Pages S2241-42, S2257-58

By 46 yeas to 54 nays (Vote No. 63), Stabenow Amendment No. 3141, to provide an assured stream of funding for veteran's health care that will take into account the annual changes in the veterans' population and inflation to be paid for by restoring the pre-2001 top rate for income over \$1 million, closing corporate tax loopholes and delaying tax cuts for the wealthy.

Pages S2241-42, S2258-59

By 49 yeas to 51 nays (Vote No. 64), Akaka Amendment No. 3071, to increase funding for Title I grants and reduce debt by closing corporate tax loopholes.

Pages \$2244-46, \$2259

By 35 yeas to 62 nays (Vote No. 65), Inhofe Amendment No. 3093, to provide for discretionary spending control. Pages \$2259-60

By 48 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 66), Lincoln Amendment No. 3106, to restore the discretionary budget for the Department of Agriculture with an offset achieved by closing corporate tax loopholes.

Pages S2249, S2249-50, S2260

By 46 yeas to 53 nays (Vote No. 67), Kerry Modified Amendment No. 3143, to prevent the imposition of excessive TRICARE fees and co-pays on military retirees.

Pages S2251-52, S2260-61

By 46 yeas to 53 nays (Vote No. 68), DeMint Modified Amendment No. 3087, to establish a reserve fund for Social Security reform.

Page S2263

Dayton Amendment No. 3097, to provide mandatory funding to fully fund the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part B grants to states; paid for by closing corporate tax loopholes.

Page S2264

By 43 yeas to 57 nays (Vote No. 69), Boxer Amendment No. 3105, to increase funding for the 21st Century Community Learning Center program; paid for by rolling back tax cuts for those with incomes over \$1 million.

Pages \$2264–65

By 50 yeas to 50 nays (Vote No. 70), Bingaman/Smith Amendment No. 3121, to strike the direct spending limitation.

Page S2265

By 39 yeas to 60 nays (Vote No. 71), Stabenow Amendment No. 3164, to establish a reserve fund to allow for deficit-neutral legislation that would provide seniors with a prescription drug benefit option that is affordable, user-friendly, and administered directly by the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Pages S2266-67

Akaka Amendment No. 3044, to provide \$310 million over five years in mandatory funding for

non-service pensions for World War II Filipino veterans, paid for by closing corporate tax loopholes.

Page S2267

By 50 yeas to 50 nays (Vote No. 73), Ensign Amendment No. 3166, to deny funds in fiscal year 2007 for the United Nations Human Rights Council, which the United States just voted against because countries found complicit in sustained human rights abuses are eligible for council membership. Savings redirected to border security. Pages S2274–75

Withdrawn:

Reid (for Clinton/Reid) Amendment No. 3115, to increase funding in fiscal year 2007 by \$347 million to restore funding or provide increased funding over fiscal year 2006 for programs and policies that support the delivery of contraceptive services and medically accurate information in order to reduce the number of unintended pregnancies, including Title X of the Public Health Service Act, and to restore funding or provide increased funding over fiscal year 2006 for programs that help women have healthy pregnancies and healthy children, including the Child Care Development Block Grant, Maternal and Child Health Block Grant, Healthy Start, and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program Women, Infants, and Children paid for by closing corporate tax loopholes. Pages S2225, S2254

Conrad Amendment No. 3148, to create a deficitneutral reserve fund for addressing the long-term fiscal challenges facing our nation, by creating a bipartisan commission or process to consider all parts of the budget, with everything on the table for discussion.

Pages S2253, S2260

Hagel Amendment No. 3127, to establish a reserve fund for a Comprehensive Entitlement Reform Commission. Pages \$2252-53, \$2260

Lincoln Amendment No. 3047, to provide \$7.8 billion over two years to fund refundable tax credits targeted to small businesses with up to 100 employees that they may help purchase group health insurance for their low-wage workers, paid for by closing corporate tax loopholes.

Pages \$2248-49, \$2260

Salazar Amendment No. 3081, to fully fund the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program, by providing \$152 million to Function 800 (General Government) for PILT, paid for by closing \$152 million in corporate tax loopholes.

Pages S2232, S2291

Honoring Members of the Armed Forces: Senate agreed to S. Res. 404, expressing the sense of the Senate that all people in the United States should participate in a moment of silence to reflect upon the service and sacrifice of members of the Armed Forces both at home and abroad.

Page S2387

Robert T. Stafford White Rocks National Recreation Area: Senate passed S. 2447, to redesignate the

White Rocks National Recreation Area in the State of Vermont as the "Robert T. Stafford White Rocks National Recreation Area".

Pages \$2387-88

Permitting Use of Capitol Rotunda: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 350, permitting the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust.

Page S2388

Permit Processing: Senate passed H.R. 4826, to extend through December 31, 2006, the authority of the Secretary of the Army to accept and expend funds contributed by non-Federal public entities to expedite the processing of permits, clearing the measure for the President.

Pages S2388-89

U.S. SAFE WEB Act: Senate passed S. 1608, to enhance Federal Trade Commission enforcement against illegal spam, spyware, and cross-border fraud and deception.

Pages S2389–92

Adjournment Resolution: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 361, providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate.

Page S2392-93

Immigration Reform: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 2454, to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for comprehensive reform.

Page S2393

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 2454 and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Tuesday, March 28, 2006.

Page S2393

Legislative Transparency and Accountability Act Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Senate resume consideration of S. 2349, to provide greater transparency in the legislative process, at 1 p.m. on Monday, March 27, 2006.

Page S2394

National Flood Insurance Program Enhanced Borrowing Authority Act—House Message: Senate concurred in the amendment of the House of Representatives to the bill S. 2275, to temporarily increase the borrowing authority of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for carrying out the national flood insurance program, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S2388

Signing Authority Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that during this adjournment of the Senate, the Majority Leader and Senator Domenici, be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions.

Page \$2392

Authorizing Leadership To Make Appointments—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding the adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President pro tempore, and the Majority and Minority Leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

Page S2392

Messages From the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the National Security Strategy of the United States of America; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services. (PM-44)

Page S2308

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By unanimous vote of 96 yeas (Vote No. EX. 75), Jack Zouhary, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio.

Pages S2293-94, S2394-95

John F. Clark, of Virginia, to be Director of the United States Marshals Service.

Paul J. McNulty, of Virginia, to be Deputy Attorney General.

Robert C. Cresanti, of Texas, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Technology.

Stephen G. Larson, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Alexander A. Karsner, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy).

Mark D. Wallace, of Florida, to be Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations for U.N. Management and Reform, with the rank of Ambassador.

Mark D. Wallace, of Florida, to be Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, during his tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations for U.N. Management and Reform.

John A. Simon, of Maryland, to be Executive Vice President of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation.

Richard T. Miller, of Texas, to be Representative of the United States of America on the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, with the rank of Ambassador.

Richard T. Miller, of Texas, to be an Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations during his tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America on the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

David F. Kustoff, of Tennessee, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Tennessee for the term of four years.

- 2 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.
- 2 Army nominations in the rank of general.
- 9 Coast Guard nominations in the rank of admi-
- 12 Marine Corps nominations in the rank of general.
 - 1 Navy nomination in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Foreign Service, Marine Corps, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Pages S2285, S2393-94, S2394-95

Messages From the House:

Measures Referred:

Measures Read First Time:

Enrolled Bills Presented:

Page S2309

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Pages S2309–11

Executive Reports of Committees:

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S2311–12

Pages S2311–12

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S2316-77

Additional Statements:

Amendments Submitted:

Notices of Hearings/Meetings:

Pages \$2307-08

Pages \$2307-85

Page \$2385

Authorities for Committees to Meet:

Pages S2385-86

Privileges of the Floor: Page S2386

Record Votes: Twenty-three record votes were taken today. (Total—75)

Pages S2236, S2240-41, S2254-61, S2263, S2265, S2267, S2272, S2275, S2291

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9 a.m., and adjourned pursuant to the provisions of H. Con. Res. 361, at 10:04 p.m., until 1 p.m., on Monday, March 27, 2006. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2394.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: FOREST SERVICE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2007

for the Forest Service, after receiving testimony from Dale Bosworth, Chief, United States Forest Service, and Mark Rey, Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment, both of the Department of Agriculture.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Treasury, the Judiciary, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2007 for the Department of Transportation and Amtrak, after receiving testimony from Norman Y. Mineta, Secretary, Joseph H. Boardman, Administrator, Federal Railroad Administration, and Mark Dayton, Senior Economist, Office of the Inspector General, all of the Department of Transportation; and David Hughes, President and Chief Executive Officer, and David M. Laney, Chairman of the Board, both of Amtrak.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the proposed defense authorization request for fiscal year 2007 and the future years defense program, focusing on military strategy and operational requirements, after receiving testimony from General John P. Abizaid, USA, Commander, United States Central Command; and General Bryan D. Brown, USA, Commander, United States Special Operations Command.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported 2,239 nominations in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps.

VOLCANIC HAZARDS IMPACTS ON AVIATION

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Disaster Prevention and Prediction concluded a hearing to examine the natural hazard threat that volcanoes pose to international aviation, after receiving testimony from James E. Quick, Program Coordinator, Volcano Hazards Program, U.S. Geological Survey, Department of the Interior; Terry McVenes, Air Line Pilots Association, International, Washington, D.C.; and John C. Eichelberger, University of Alaska, Fairbanks.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items: